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CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer
: of Health :

FOR 1948

PRINTED BY THE
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31, ELECTRIC PARADE.

Clacton Urban District Council

CHAIRMAN :

MR. B. GREAVES, M.A., J.P.

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Mr. H. POWIS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Mr. D. W. HEIGHTMAN Mr. H. P. KING, c.c.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

J. RAMSBOTTOM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health (Temp.)

GEO. H. SMITH, M.S.I.A., M.I.P.C., R.S.I. CERT. MEAT AND FOODS.
R.S.I. Cert. Sanitary Science.

R.S.I. Advanced Cert. in Practical and Administrative Duties.

Institute of Hygiene Cert. Advanced Hygiene and Physiology.

Institute of Public Cleansing Diploma.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Officer

N. HAWKINS, M.S.I.A., CERT. S.I.B., CERT. MEAT AND FOODS.
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

J. ROYLE, M.S.I.A., A.R.SAN.I., CERT. MEAT AND FOODS,
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

E. H. NORFOLK ... Senior Clerk

Miss E. P. JOHNS ... Junior Clerk

*Miss A. M. KLUE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.CERT. Health Visitor

*Miss R. M. GOODEY ... M. and C.W. Clerk

*(Transferred to the Essex County Council, 5th July, 1948).

CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
CLACTON-ON-SEA,
AUGUST, 1949.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report respecting the health and sanitary circumstances of your District during 1948.

The Vital Statistics are based upon the Registrar General's estimated population of 23,010 for 1948. Both the birth and death rates depend upon the age distribution of the population and cannot be compared with the national figures without the necessary adjustment being made, and the factor for the necessary calculation is not available.

The outstanding features of this year's report are:—

1. The absence of maternal deaths for 4 years in succession.
2. The absence of puerperal fever and pyrexia amongst the notifications.
3. The low infantile mortality which is approaching half that for England and Wales.
4. The absence of infantile diarrhoea.

The infectious disease rate is low, and the cases notified consist almost entirely of Measles, Chicken-pox, and Whooping Cough.

Now that the National Health Service Act has been in operation since July, it may be of interest to review the effects upon the local Public Health Administration.

The Act has made considerable modification in the duties of the Urban District Council. Responsibilities that were previously borne by the Urban District have now been transferred either to the County as the local Health Authority, or to other newly constituted bodies.

Clacton Council has lost all control of the following particular sub-divisions in connection with Public Health:—

1. Control of Maternity and Child Welfare (transferred to Essex County Council, and in case of Woodboro' Nursing Home, to North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board).
2. Control of the isolation and hospitalisation of Infectious Diseases (transferred to N.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board).
3. Prophylactic immunisation against Diphtheria (Essex County Council).
4. Home and Domestic Helps (Essex County Council).
5. Ambulance Service (Essex County Council).

The Urban District still retain wholly or in part, the administration of the following Public Health matters:—

1. General Public Health.
 - Abatement of Nuisances.
 - Provision of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.
 - Scavenging.
 - Prevention of River Pollution.
 - Cemeteries.
2. Infectious Disease.
 - Disinfection of houses and contents, and enquiries.
3. Food.
 - Inspection of, and if found unfit for human consumption the seizure of such food.
 - Inspection of premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale.
 - Investigation of cases of food poisoning.
4. Milk.
 - Registration of cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops; issuing of dealers' licenses for Tuberculin Tested, Accredited, and Pasteurised Milks.
5. Water Supply.
 - Provision of an adequate and pure water supply to each home.
6. Rodent Control.
7. Housing.
 - Duties imposed by the various Housing Acts and Regulations.

The modern tendency is to centralise over a wider area and so remove the departure from uniformity which complete local control gives. Time will show whether the advantages of centralisation will outweigh the loss due to local knowledge.

This local control is most important, for example, in the control of infectious disease where the combination of knowledge of local conditions and circumstances and also the accurate and early information concerning the cases allows the prompt action necessary in serious epidemics.

Prompt action is liable to be lost when administrative procedure becomes too cumbersome.

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their continued support, and also to express my thanks for the help and co-operation of the various officers of the Council, and especially to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Staff.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. RAMSBOTTOM.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	6,470
Resident Population (Registrar General's estimate 1948)	23,010
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1948	9,400
Rateable Value	£276,947
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,065

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate ...	177	133	310
Illegitimate ...	14	15	29
Totals ...	191	148	339
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	14.73		
Still Births—Legitimate ...	4	3	7
Illegitimate ...	—	2	2
Totals ...	4	5	9
Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	25.9		

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths at all Ages ...	143	158	301
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 population ...	13.1		

DEATHS FROM DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS OF PREGNACY AND CHILD BIRTH.

Cause	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes ...	Nil	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Male	Female	Total
Actual Number of Deaths Legitimate	5	1	6
Actual Number of Deaths Illegitimate	1	—	1
Totals ...	6	1	7
Infantile Death Rate	20.6		
Death Rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	19.3		
Death Rate of Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	34.5		

DEATHS FROM MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH & DIARRHŒA (Under 2 years.)

Measles	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Nil
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS FROM CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS, INFLUENZA, AND HEART DISEASE.

Disease	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population
Cancer	47	2.0
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary 6		
Non-Pulmonary 3		
—	9	0.39
Influenza	2	0.08
Heart Disease	101	4.3

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1948

Under 1 year	7
1 and under 2 years	2
2 and under 5 years	2
5 and under 15 years	1
15 and under 25 years	3
25 and under 35 years	5
35 and under 45 years	5
45 and under 55 years	16
55 and under 65 years	21
65 and under 75 years	96
75 and upwards	143
Total	301

There are 35 deaths less than last year and it is noteworthy that up to the age of 45 the number of deaths were the same for both years, viz., 41.

The reduction is most marked in the age groups 55 to 75, which show a reduction of 39 deaths on 1947.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1948.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	2	6
Other Forms of T.B.	1	2	3
Influenza	1	1	2
Ac. inf. enceph.	—	1	1
Cancer	29	18	47
Diabetes	—	1	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	18	33	51
Heart Disease	50	51	101
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	9	14
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2	4
Ulcer of Stomach of Duodenum	—	1	1
Appendicitis	—	2	2
Other Digestive Diseases	—	3	3
Nephritis	2	2	4
Con. Malformation: birth inj., etc.	5	—	5
Suicide	1	2	3
Road Traffic Accident	—	2	2
Other Violent Causes	—	3	3
All other causes	19	18	37
Totals ...	143	158	301

The fall of 35 in the number of deaths as compared with 1947 is due to the reduction of 13 in the case of Cancer, and 17 in Heart and Circulatory diseases, which accounts for 30 of the total 35 deaths.

INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the cause of, and the ages at death, of the 7 infantile deaths registered:—

	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 wk.	1 to 2 months	9 months	Total
Con. Morbus Cordis	—	1	—	—	1
Anencephalic foetus	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	2
Injury at Birth	3	—	—	—	3
Totals ...	4	1	1	1	7

The death from Pneumonia is the only one which might be said to be avoidable.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

Comparative Statistics, Clacton Urban District and England and Wales as a whole, 1948 :—

RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

				C.U.D.C.	England & Wales
Births :					
Live Births	...	...	...	14.73	17.9
Still Births	...	...	...	0.39	0.42
Deaths :					
All Causes	...	...	...	13.0	10.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0.00	0.02
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.4	0.51
Influenza	...	...	...	0.08	0.03
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.00	0.41
Notifications (corrected) :—					
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	0.04	0.03
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0.17	1.73
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0.6	3.42
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.00	0.08
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.08	0.21
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	8.2	9.34
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.00	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0.00	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Deaths :—				Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
All causes under 1 year of age	...	...	...	20.6	34
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	...	0.00	3.3
				Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)	
Notifications Corrected :—					
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	...	...	...	0.00	6.89
				Maternal Mortality (rates per 1000 live and still births)	
					England & Wales
140 Abortion with Sepsis	...	...	...	Nil	0.11
141 Abortion without Sepsis	...	...	...	Nil	0.05
147 Puerperal infections	...	...	...	Nil	0.12
142-146, 148-150 other maternal causes	...	...	...	Nil	0.73

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Medical Officer of Health (Temporary):

J. RAMSBOTTOM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also Assistant County Medical Officer, and Medical Officer for Brightlingsea U.D.C., Frinton and Walton U.D.C., and Tendring R.D.C.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological work is carried out at the

Pathologist Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Water and Ice Cream samples are examined at the

Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

Examination of Milk is dealt with at the

Essex Institute of Agriculture, Writtle, Nr. Chelmsford.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

All Ambulance Services are now under Essex County Council control as the Local Health Authority.

NURSING HOMES.

In Clacton Urban District there are 4 Nursing Homes registered under the County Scheme.

Ellisdene Nursing Home, Clacton

(Private) 11 beds, 7 being for maternity cases.

Waltham Nursing Home, Holland-on-Sea.

(Private) 6 beds, 4 being for maternity cases.

Woodboro' Nursing Home, Clacton ... 5 beds (maternity)

(N.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board) .

Galloway Nursing Home, Clacton.

(Private) 6 beds for maternity, medical and surgical cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CHILD WELFARE

The main clinic is provided at the combined Clinic premises, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton. This Clinic is centrally situated, and there are three sessions each week:

Tuesday Morning	...	...	9.30—12 noon.
Thursday Morning	...	...	9.30—12 noon.
Thursday afternoon	...	...	2 p.m.—4 p.m.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer is in attendance.

In addition to the Central Clinic, smaller subsidiary Clinics are held at Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Sessions are held each Tuesday afternoon at 1.30 p.m. at the combined Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINIC

One session monthly is held at the Central Clinic between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on the second Monday in the month.

In addition to the above, there are special Clinics for infants under 5 years held at the Central Clinic premises as follows:—

DIPHtheria IMMUNISATION CLINIC: 1st Monday in the month, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC: 4th Monday in the Month.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC (Masseuse): Every Thursday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

DENTAL CLINIC: Arrangements also exist for the Dental Treatment of both Mothers and Infants.

HOME NURSING.

This is now under direct County Control as the Local Health Authority.

MIDWIVES

Four District Nurse Midwives, also under County Council control.

MATERNITY HOME

The local Maternity Home, "Woodboro," Skelmersdale Road, is now under the control of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

PSYCHIATRIST CLINICS

A Comnly Clinic is held every Friday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. by appointment.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

1st January to 5th July, 1949.

TOTAL BIRTHS 163 (Male 101 Female 62)

STILLBIRTHS 4 (Male 3 Female 1)

Notified by Medical Practitioners 109

Notified by Midwives 58

DOMICILARY

	Midwives	Maternity Nurses	Total
1. District Nurses 	37	30	67
2. Independant Midwives ... —	—	—	—
3. Private Trained Women ... —	—	—	—

MATERNITY HOMES AND HOSPITALS.

1. Clacton and District Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
2. Ellisdene Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	37
3. Woodboro' Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	43
4. Waltham Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	23
5. St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester (Notified outside area)					5
6. Old Mill House, Great Bentley	"	"	"		7
7. East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital	"	"	"		5
8. Borough Maternity Home,					
Colchester	"	"	"		5

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

		No. on Register
1. Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics (Doctors' Sessions)	565	
2. Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics (Midwives' Sessions)	213	
3. Attendances at Post-Natal Clinics (Doctors' Sessions)	25	170
4. No. of Visits (Ante-Natal) paid by Health Visitor	25	
5. Attendances at Women's Welfare Clinic	62	

HEALTH VISITS

No. of Visits to children under 5 years	...	...	...	386
No. of Visits to Children under 9 years as Infant Life Protection Visitor	...	...	...	12
To Homes	...	...	...	2

ORTHOPÆDICS.

Eight Children receiving treatment made a total of 35 visits.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	11
Children under 5 years	...	...	...	...	2
Mothers	...	...	...	...	2

EYE CLINIC

27 Children under 5 years attended.

INFANT CLINICS.

78 Clacton Clinics were held, attendances of children under 5 being	...	...	...	...	3411
12 Holland-on-Sea Clinics were held, attendances of children under 5 being	...	...	...	...	406
12 Infant Clinics at Jaywick were held, attendances of children under 5 being	...	...	...	...	162

IMMUNISATION—Diphtheria and Whooping Cough (Combined)

105 Children under 5 years were immunised (3 injections).

33 Children under 5 years were immunised (2 injections)
Diphtheria only.

9 Children under 5 years were immunized (4 injections)
Whooping Cough only.

FOOD AND MEDICINES SOLD.

Cow and Gate Milk Food	...	...	3162	packets.
Ostermilk	...	...	388	tins
Trufood	...	...	522	tins
Colact	...	...	72	tins
Lactogal	...	...	45	tins
Maternity Outfits	...	...	65	

Also, Oil and Malt, Virol, and Drugs were sold.

In addition to the above, National Dried Milk, Vitamins, and Cod Liver Oil were distributed at the Clinics.

The above report, which will be the last made to the Urban District Council is for six months only, that is, to the 5th July, 1948, when the County Council became the Local Health Authority for Maternity and Child Welfare.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

WATER.

During the year 1948, the Clacton Water Department supplied 369,583,000 gallons of water, being an increase of 1,119,000 gallons over the output of the previous year.

The water was obtained from:—

Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co. ...	254,482,000
Gt. Bentley Pumping Station	105,842,000
St. Osyth Pumping Station	9,259,000
	<hr/>
	369,583,000

The water supply of the area throughout the year has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Bacteriological examinations are made of samples of water taken from the Pumping Stations at no less frequent intervals than monthly. In addition to those taken at the source, regular samples have been collected from premises in various parts of the town and submitted for bacteriological examination. These have all been satisfactory.

There is no reason to consider the water likely to have plumbo-solvent action, and have not had to take any action in respect of any form of contamination although water receives precautionary Chlorine treatment.

Out of a resident population of 23,010 less than 100 receive main water by means of standpipes which supply 28 permanent houses.

About 1,000 summer chalets in Jaywick obtain their water by this means, but these dwellings have only a nominal population at other times of the year.

The exceptionally low rainfall over the North-East Essex Peninsular averaging under 20 inches per annum, and the absence of streams and lakes, makes deep well water the only source of public supply available.

This is at the present time sufficient for the uses of the district, but coastal development may quite easily put a strain on the wells beyond their capacity to bear.

It is very necessary to retain all the supplementary sources of water available, and every endeavour should be made to avoid waste of portable water. Now that the Chlorination is a proved protection, any water of a reasonably high degree of bacterial purity can be utilised with perfect safety.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE, 1948.

New Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

NORTHERN AREA DRAINAGE SCHEME.

This Scheme will provide main drainage in the Northern Area of the District, in which the Burrsville Estate, Thorpe Road, London Road, etc., are situate. 500 properties in that area are at present drained to cesspools.

(1) CONTRACT No. 1.

This deals with the construction of the Main Soil and Surface water Sewers to drain the area as a whole.

The Soil Sewer runs from the existing outfall at Valley Farm, along Pickers Ditch to a point a quarter of a mile from Thorpe Road, where it branches up to Gorse Lane, Meadow Close and Burrs Road. Properties in these roads will connect to this Main Sewer, while the properties in the various private streets will be able to connect later via the branch sewers to be laid under the Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Surface water sewers run from Gorse Lane, Meadow Close and Burrs Road, and discharge via grit chambers into Pickers Ditch.

During the year under review about 4,100 yards of soil and surface water sewers, varying in diameter from 9" to 36", together with manholes, vent columns, grit chambers, and other incidental works have been completed.

(2) CONTRACT No. 2.

This involves an extension of the Main Site Sewer to a point in London Road near Everitts' Nurseries to take in the sewage from Little Clacton for the Tendring Rural District Council.

With regard to Sewage Disposal, existing plant at Holland Haven and Jaywick has been overhauled.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Infested Houses :

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	...	...	6

Number of Houses disinfested :

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	...	...	6

Methods employed :

Stripping of skirtings, etc., where necessary, spraying with insecticide, fumigation with sulphur and other special fumigators.

Steam disinfection of bedding.

It is pleasing to note that vermin infestation appears to be on the decline.

Whether due to cleaner habits of people, or efficient methods of disinfection remains to be proved.

FACTORIES

For particulars of inspections of premises and action taken, see Sanitary Inspector's report.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1948

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Sanitary Department during 1948:—

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Special Visits	...	...	...	...	...	4732
Special Visits re Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	842
Re-inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1394
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	391
Piggery Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	73
Stable Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	64
Poultry Houses and Runs Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	90
Hawkers' Stores Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	11
Offensive Trade Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouse (Non-Power) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouse (Power) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	42
Shops—Sanitary Accommodation—Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	42
Fish Friers' Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	47
Hairdressers' Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	14
Camping Ground Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	130
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cinemas—Sanitary Accommodation—Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	9
Public Convenience Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	405
Visits re other Drain Tests and Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	55

DRAINAGE — BURRSVILLE.

Visits, re Drainage, Burrsville	...	...	...	...	720
Premises connected to Sewer	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	6

The laying of Public Sewers at Burrsville Estate will eventually lead to the abolition of nuisances that frequently occur, especially during the summer months. Several dwellings have already been connected, and it is hoped to expedite this work as sewers become available.

Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	297
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	10
Letters to Owners re Nuisances	...	...	...	...	82

Improvements following Preliminary Notices	...	459
Improvements following Statutory Notices	... ..	27
Improvements without Notices	... ..	353
Premises at which Nuisances abated...	... ..	546

The following were the principle Improvements obtained :—

Roofs Repaired	... ..	16
Chimney Pots repaired	... ..	2
Eaves gutters repaired or provided	... ..	12
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	... ..	5
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drain	... ..	2
Brickwork repaired or repointed	... ..	7
Damp-proof course uncovered	... ..	1
Damp-proof courses laid	... ..	22
Sleeper walls honeycombed	... ..	2
Sleeper Walls provided	... ..	2
Air Bricks provided	... ..	16
Weatherboards fitted	... ..	2
Wall Plaster repaired	... ..	27
Ceiling Plaster repaired	... ..	28
Windows repaired	... ..	32
Sashcords provided	... ..	7
Permanent Ventilation provided	... ..	5
Doors repaired	... ..	18
Doorsteps repaired	... ..	2
Handrail to staircase provided	... ..	1
Staircase repaired	... ..	1
Floors repaired or relaid	... ..	70
Sub Floor Concrete laid	... ..	3
Fireplaces repaired or provided	... ..	11
Kitchen ranges repaired or provided	... ..	8
Flue repaired	... ..	1
Boilers provided or repaired	... ..	5
Hot Water tank fitted	... ..	1
Storage tanks provided	... ..	4
Flush cisterns repaired or provided	... ..	24
W.C. Basins provided	... ..	7
W.C. Seats repaired or provided...	... ..	7
W.C. joints repaired	... ..	1
W.C. sealed off from food store	... ..	2
W.C. Door provided	... ..	1
W.C.s provided to Restaurants and Camp	... ..	22
Urinal provided to Camp	... ..	1
Elsan Closets provided	... ..	2
Sink discharge channels provided	... ..	2
Sink Wastes altered or repaired	... ..	10

Gulley dishing repaired	9
Gulley surrounds enlarged	4
Gulley grating provided	4
Inspection chambers provided	12
Inspection chamber covers provided	11
Interceptor chambers repaired	8
Stoppers provided to cleansing eyes	5
F.A.T. repaired or provided	8
Vent shafts repaired or provided	6
Soakaways provided	2
Drains relaid	9
New Drains laid	13
Drains repaired	12
Drains cleared	67
Soil pipe renewed	1
Cesspools emptied	5
Cesspools repaired	1
Disused well abolished	1
Well cleaned and repaired	1
Water service repaired	20
Fencing renewed	1
Yards tidied	6
Accumulations of refuse removed	8
Ditch cleared	1
Cellar flooding abated	1
Passages paved	3
Dustbins provided	161
Hairdressers' equipment cleansed	1
New Hairdressers' equipment provided	1
Tents and Caravans correctly spaced	3
Piggery concreted	1
Accumulation of manure removed	2
Premises cleansed	6
Premises lime-washed	6
Smoke Nuisances abated	4

Total Improvements ... 796

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Visits re permits for Timber (Flooring)	168
Visits re permits for Sanitary Fittings	23
No. of Houses inspected and recorded	11
Re-inspections of houses inspected and recorded	44
Inspections re permitted number	20
Inspections of Dwelling-Houses re Closing Orders	1

(Closing Order not necessary).

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- 4 cases of Scarlet Fever investigated.
- 1 case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever investigated.
- 1 case of suspected Diphtheria investigated.
- 1 case of Erysipelas investigated.
- 1 Poliomyelitis contact investigated.

- 2 other visits to premises in connection with Infectious Diseases.

- 22 Rooms, bedding, etc., disinfected.
- 22 lots of bedding steam disinfected.
- 81 Library Books disinfected.
- 1 Ambulance disinfected (5 times).
- 2 Hospital Wards disinfected.

VERMIN, MOTHS, ETC.

- 21 Rooms fumigated.
- 15 lots of bedding steam disinfected.
- 1 Dirty House fumigated.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS

Cowshed Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	112
Dairy Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	149

Main Improvements obtained :—

Cowshed reconstructed	...	...	...	1
Dairy reconstructed	...	...	...	1
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	10
Premises linewashed	...	...	...	8

13 Samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were submitted for examination. All satisfactory.

One sample of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination, proved satisfactory.

Five samples of Pasteurised Milk submitted during the year were satisfactory.

Four samples of Ordinary milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination as to the general cleanliness and presence, or otherwise, of B.Coli results, and proved satisfactory.

WATER ANALYSIS AND EXAMINATION.

The undermentioned samples were taken :—

- 7 from Great Bentley Pumping Station.
- 2 from St. Osyth Pumping Station.
- 15 from Town Supply.
- 3 from Standpipes.
- 1 from piped Spring.
- 7 from Wells.

BATHING POOLS

Five samples of water submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis.

The two Bathing Pools open to the general public are run under trained Engineers, and are kept in a very clean and satisfactory conditions.

Very heavy loads are carried during the season, and the good reports upon bacteriological analysis prove efficient administration, purification plant, etc.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

674 Visits by Inspectors.

1561 Visits by Operator.

880 Dead Rats picked up.

This work is carried out in conjunction with the scheme as set out in Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Local Authority Circular N.S. No. 19.

It is certainly much more satisfactory to service ordinary private dwellings upon receiving notice of infestation than wasting time serving notices and expecting the occupier, an untrained person, to carry out the job efficiently. In fact, there was a certain amount of danger in recommending an occupier of a dwelling to purchase and use Rat Poison.

Rat Destruction is important Public Health Work, and co-operation with the above Ministry has led to good results in disinfection.

A charge for service is made to occupiers of business premises, poultry and pig keepers.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, Sec. 14—ICE CREAM

Visits to Ice Cream Premises 168

Main Improvements obtained :—

Ice Cream Stalls Screened2

New Ice Cream Plant provided ... 1

Samples of Ice Cream submitted to Bacteriologist for examination 52

13 were Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade I

15 " " " " " " II

9 " " " " " " III

15 " " " " " " IV

Manufacturers of Ice Cream are gradually installing plant to meet with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

All Kiosks and Tricycles from which loose Ice Cream is sold are screened to prevent contamination by dust, etc.

By notice and constant verbal reminders, all employees are kept alive to the necessity of absolute cleanliness of person and habits.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

The following Visits were made during the year :—

Slaughterhouses, Butchers' Shops, and Stores	285
Hawkers' Premises	11
Restaurants, Cafes, and Kitchens	207
Re Applications for Catering Licenses	3

The following were found to be unfit for human food :—

134 Tins of Milk	32 Tins of Beans
19 „ „ Soup	48 „ „ Peas
1 „ „ Stew	17 „ „ Carrots
61 „ „ Fish	8 „ „ Tomatoes
92 „ „ Meat	1 „ „ Vegetables
1 „ „ Meat Paste	6 „ „ Beet
1 „ „ Sausages	82 „ „ Hors d'œuvre
1 „ „ Pudding	1 „ „ Spaghetti
5 „ „ Marmalade	2 „ „ Picallili
44 „ „ Fruit	3 „ „ Grape Juice
4 „ „ Apples	13 „ „ Fruit Juice
3 „ „ Peaches	1 „ „ Grape Fruit
3 „ „ Pears	1 „ „ Quince
26 „ „ Jam	1 Jar of Pickles
13 Jars of Jam	1 „ „ Olives
2 „ „ Marmalade	1 „ „ Marmite
3 „ „ Meat Paste	1 „ „ Potted Meat
3 Bottles of Plums	4 Bottles of Coffee
2 Pkts. Semolena	6 ozs. Tea.
26 lbs. Rice Substitute	5 lbs. Sweets
27 lbs. Prunes	6 lbs. Sugar
18 lbs. White Pudding	1½ lbs. Margarine
21 lbs. Flour	1½ lbs. Biscuits
40 28lb. bags Gooseberries	1 loaf Bread
3 cwt. Potatoes	122 Stone Fish
2 Pigs' Heads (T.B.)	11½ lbs. Bacon
299½ lbs. Beef.	5¼ lbs. Liver
110 lbs. Whale Meat.	1 Carcase Mutton and all offal

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	2	2	45
Number inspected	—	—	2	2	45
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	50%	2%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with Tubercu- losis	—	—	—	—	4%

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Total number of Outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
Nil				

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act.

1.—**Inspections** for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspection (4)	written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	68	25		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	115	154	2	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3				
TOTAL ...		183	179	2	

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number cases in which prosecution was instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	4	5	3			
Overcrowding (S.2.)	5					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6					

Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8				
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	9	2	5		1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	33	17		
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	1	2		
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	9	3		
TOTAL ...	60	50	*30		1

*Also from Previous Year.

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110		
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Wearing apparel :				
Making, etc.	13	2		
Cleaning & washing	14			
Artificial flowers ...	28	2		
Total	70	4		

SECTION 111 Nil

REMOVAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE

Removal is by rear loading mechanical vehicles. Six vehicles are in use from May to October, five machines during the remainder of the year. Refuse is removed weekly, during the holiday season, Hotels, Restaurants, Tradesmens' premises and large Boarding Houses are cleared more frequently.

Trade Refuse is removed by arrangement, the income from such source for 1948 being £237. Total net cost of collection £6,409. Income from waste paper £2,240. Total weight of Refuse collected 5,777 tons.

Refuse Disposal is by Incineration and Controlled Tipping.

The Disposal site is at Rush Green, on the western outskirts of the town.

Area of the site is approximately 30 acres.

With careful planning of tipping and up-keep of incinerator, the site should last at least twenty-five years.

The total amount of refuse dealt with in the year 1948 was 5,884 tons.

Income from salvaged materials £1,299.

Total net cost of Disposal £2,275.

STREET AND PROMENADE CLEANSING.

The District is divided into Beats, each regular sweeper being responsible for his area. During the holiday season additional labour is brought in.

All County Roads by agreement are cleansed by this Authority.

Total cost of street and promenade cleansing £3,202.

STREET GULLIES

Cleansed by mechanical means (Hired Service) four times each year. Total cost £326.

SNOW CLEARANCE, Etc.

When necessary snow plough brought into action.

Mechanical road gritter used for frosty roads.

Supply of salt always in stock.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are sixteen public conveniences, comprising 53 gentlemen's water closets, 86 ladies' water closets, 30 wash-hand basins for gentlemen, 24 ladies'.

Total income from conveniences, £4,485.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

During 1948, 20 houses were erected by private enterprise and 74 by the Council. 15 emergency bungalows were completed.

Housing complaints have been dealt with as they have arisen (See Sanitary Inspector's Report).

No Demolition Orders were made during the year.

One Cottage was voluntarily demolished.

Six old cottages were converted into three dwellings.

Although considerable progress has been made, the question of housing still remains the chief menace to public health. Much has been said about the standard of living, the two main pillars of which are food and housing. Since the war the latter standard can be observed deteriorating.

It is essential not merely to maintain the number of houses by every means possible, but both by building new houses and repairing old ones to actually increase the number. Until the supply of houses considerably exceeds the demand, it is not possible to improve the general housing conditions of the district.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS AND HOUSING.

With the possibility of aerial warfare of a more intensive type in any future hostilities, it does not appear impracticable to make it obligatory for all new houses to have an effective air raid shelter in the basement which could give reasonable defence against aerial bombardment and even offer feasible protection against atomic rays.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Milk Production.

The register shows there are 8 Producers (1 Accredited and Tuberculin Tested, 4 Tuberculin Tested, and 3 Ordinary Milk), and 17 Retailers in the District.

With regard to work carried out under the Milk and Dairies Orders, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report, Section C.

Meat.

Routine slaughtering is done outside the District. For particulars of Meat and other foods inspected and condemned, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report, Section C.

SECTION F. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Below is given in tabular form the number and particulars of Infectious Diseases notified in the Urban District during 1948:—

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	4	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	—
Erysipelas ...	2	1	—
Whooping Cough	14	1	—
Chicken-pox ...	35	1	—
Measles	189	—	—
(Observation)	—	1	—
	245	7	—

It will be noted that only 7 of the 245 cases of infectious diseases were of a serious type, the remainder were the usual infections of childhood.

IMMUNISATION DIPHTHERIA

During 1948, 257 children between one and five years, and 1 between five and fifteen years received the full course of inoculation.

6 Children received a secondary or reinforcing injection.

For the second year in succession, Clacton has been free from Diphtheria. The remarkable fall in the prevalence of this disease can only be attributed to the immunisation campaign.

It is very interesting to consider the National Statistics relating to the prevalence of Diphtheria since immunisation was adopted. The present low death rate is still more impressive when it is remembered that the great majority of the 150 deaths were those of non-immunised children.

Year	Number of cases	Deaths
* 1931—1940	55,000	2,800
1940	46,281	2,480
1941	50,798	2,641
1942	41,404	1,827
1943	34,662	1,371
1944	29,949	934
1945	25,246	722
1946	18,283	472
1947	10,465	244
1948	8,034	150

Immunisation was adopted in 1939 and became gradually more universal from 1940 onwards.

* Average for the ten years 1931—1940.

TUBERCULOSIS

Below is given in tabular form the number of new cases and the deaths from Tuberculosis during 1948 :—

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
65 up-wards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	2	4	—	1	5	2	—	2

New Cases ... 7

Deaths ... 9

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1948 :—

Respiratory Male	...	52	Non-Respiratory Male	15
„ Female	...	37	„ „ Female	16
		—		—
		89		31
		—		—

Total ... 120.

The Urban District has a low tuberculosis rate. 7 new cases were notified, of which 6 were pulmonary.

Since the war, the incidence of tuberculosis has shown a tendency to increase, but this is confined to the Northern industrial areas and Scotland, and up to the present has not affected the Southern and South Eastern part of the country.

It is difficult to say what factors contribute to this difference, but it tends to show that although tuberculosis appears to be a dying disease, vigilance on the part of local health authorities must not be relaxed.

